

October 13, 2009

Chairman Julius Genachowski
FCC Commissioners

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Oct. 22, 2009 Open Meeting-Broadband Industry Practices-
WC Docket 07-52

Dear Commissioners:

Clay County Missouri has been a catalyst for growth in the metropolitan Kansas City area. Economic Development has been strong as new residential, commercial and industrial developments appeared throughout the county. The Clay County Economic Development Council is proud of its accomplishments.

Clay County's green space developments in the Kansas City "Northland" has ignited growth that has benefited the entire metropolitan area. The council's efforts to attract new business and retain existing business and industry are highly dependent upon the technology infrastructure serving Clay County. Net neutrality rules suppress infrastructure investment. Broadband services are now an integral part of business, education, health care and quality of life. We can't afford to see the infrastructure improvement slow.

Today, under minimal regulation, the Kansas City area has many broadband service providers offering consumers multiple choices. This competition for the customer ensures quality service and innovation. Investments are being made daily to stay competitive. The consumer is winning in the market place. And all of this is occurring during one of the country's deepest recessions.

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Regulation will slow the growth, investment and innovation of an industry now that investing billions in infrastructure. That infrastructure serves and supports the networks and commerce of other industries. Many of these industries are dependent on technology cutting costs of operation.

Net neutrality is bad for Clay County and bad for the country. As you examine FCC policies for broadband services, please consider free and open markets that provide competition, innovation, employment and investment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Hampton", written in a cursive style.

Jim Hampton
Executive Director